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66-1264

21 MAR 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Establishment of a China Task Force

1. Attached for your information is a copy of a notice which I am issuing. It announces the establishment of a China Task Force.

2. In recent weeks I have reviewed, as a matter of priority, the adequacy of the organizational and institutional arrangements for production of intelligence on China and for support of the DCI China Coordinator. In this review, I have been mindful of your discussion with members of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board on 29 January, in which you informed the Board that the focal point in the Agency for production of intelligence on Communist China was the Deputy Director for Intelligence.

3. In order to provide the strongest possible mechanism for discharging the Agency's responsibilities for production of intelligence on China, I am establishing a China Task Force. This Task Force is to be headed by a thoroughly qualified and seasoned senior substantive officer who is one of our foremost specialists on China. This officer [redacted] will report directly to me. The Task Force Chief will meet regularly with representatives of all production components to monitor and assess China production programs and to make recommendations to me where appropriate. He will also review the adequacy of collection guidance on China and will, on my behalf, monitor the Agency's relations with the China centers in the universities and with our academic consultants. (The latter account will be under the direct supervision of a full-time area expert who will be appointed shortly.) The Task Force Chief will also be responsible for providing the most effective possible support to the DCI China Coordinator.

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4. Our purpose, therefore, is to devise simple and efficient procedures for making certain that all Agency resources for production of intelligence on China are used with maximum effectiveness and to make very clear that production of intelligence on China is a task of greatest importance and urgency. We are manifesting our support for this effort by charging our most experienced China specialists with the task. In order to work at maximum efficiency and avoid confusion, the actual production of intelligence on China will continue to be carried out in the line organizations. The Chief of the China Task Force and his group of area specialists will not supersede the chain of command.

5. A more drastic alternative, the concentration of all China specialists in one major line organization, would cause undesirable dislocation since it would require complete reorganization of the production components on a geographical basis. It would not in itself produce better intelligence, might involve wasteful duplication of resources, and would create serious disruption in the very area we are trying to develop.

6. I believe that with the implementation of the arrangements outlined above, the Agency will be in a very strong position to meet the demands presented by China's status as an intelligence target of top priority.



R. J. SMITH

Deputy Director for Intelligence

Attachment

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DD/I Notice
No. 50-100-50

DD/I N 50-100-50
21 March 1966

ESTABLISHMENT OF A CHINA TASK FORCE

1. A China Task Force is hereby established whose purpose is to provide (a) a focal point for monitoring intelligence production on Communist China and (b) a focal point for receiving for the Deputy Director for Intelligence requests relating to China.

2. The China Task Force shall be headed by a Chief who shall operate under the direction of the Deputy Director for Intelligence. The Chief of the China Task Force shall act as representative on the DCI China Coordinator's group for the Deputy Director for Intelligence and the Office of National Estimates.

3. The China Task Force (CTF), under the direction of its Chief, shall:

- (a) support the work of the DCI China Coordinator;
- (b) monitor the Agency's production programs on China, i.e., assess their progress in answering the priority intelligence questions, including the reporting on the weaknesses and vulnerabilities of Communist China, examine the relationships of these programs to one another, and draw up recommendations for improvement;
- (c) review substantive developments and draw up recommendations for the revision of production programs in response to these developments;
- (d) receive for the Deputy Director for Intelligence requests for unscheduled production;

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| GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification |
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- (e) monitor the work of the supporting components of the Directorate of Intelligence (including collection guidance) and draw up recommendations for improvement; and
- (f) monitor relations, excluding contractual arrangements, with the China centers in universities and with academic consultants on China.

4. In carrying out these duties, the Chief of the China Task Force shall report directly to the Deputy Director for Intelligence and make recommendations as appropriate. In those matters affecting components outside the Directorate of Intelligence, the Deputy Director for Intelligence shall transmit such recommendations to the appropriate Deputy Director.

5. In addition to its Chief, the China Task Force shall be composed of:

- (a) a secretariat, including the Chairman of the former China Intelligence Study Group (CHINTELL), which has been carrying out some of the functions now assigned to the CTF and which will now be reconstituted as the CTF secretariat; and
- (b) representatives of all of the major components of the Directorate of Intelligence concerned with production on China, of the Office of National Estimates, of the Directorate of Science and Technology, and of selected supporting components, and the coordinators of special projects.

6. The purpose of this notice is to improve the coordination of work on Communist China and to insure that recommendations for reorienting such research are made to the appropriate authorities. It is not intended to supersede the present lines of command.



R. J. SMITH

Deputy Director for Intelligence

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/s/ R. J. Smith

R. J. SMITH
Deputy Director for Intelligence

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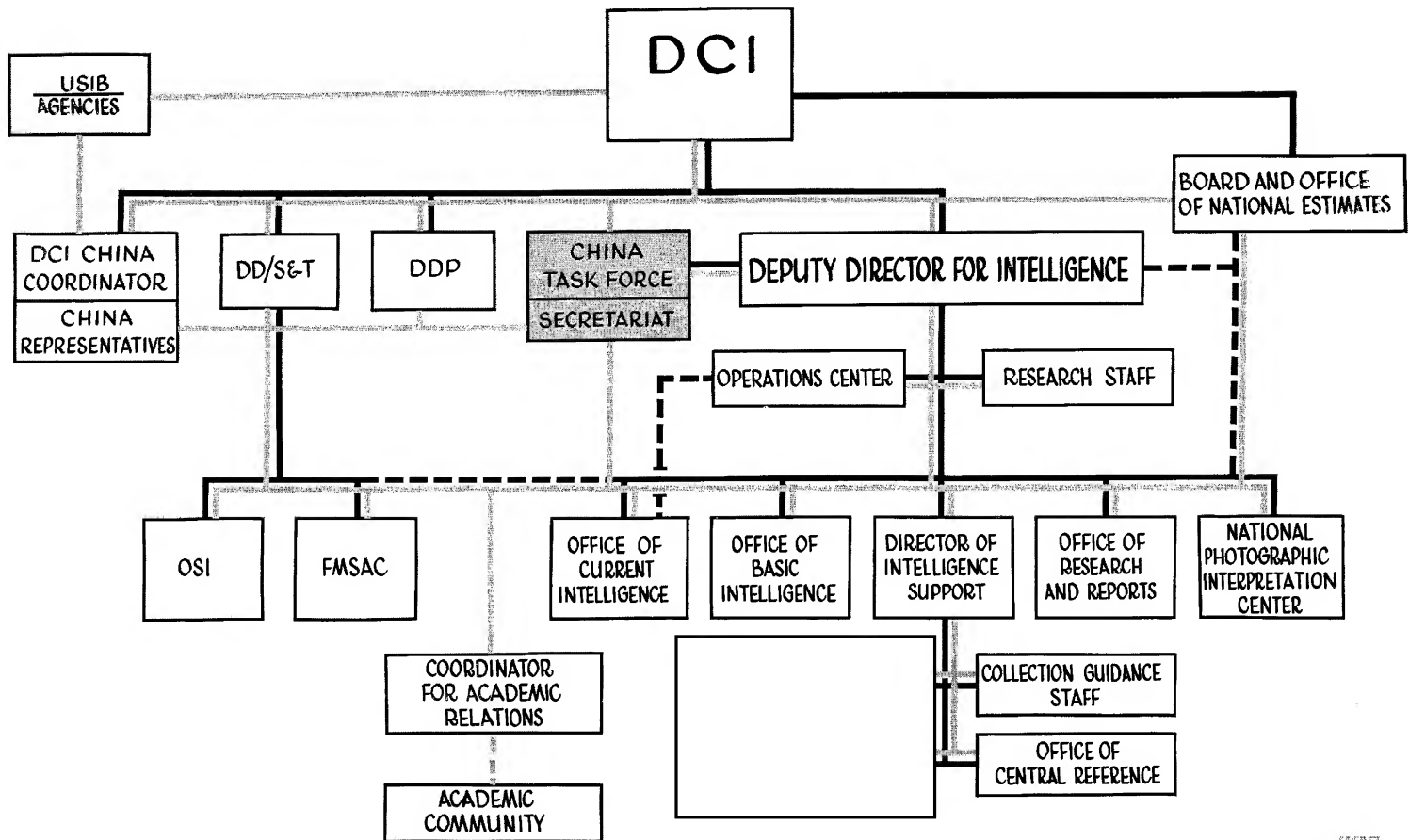
R. J. SMITH
Deputy Director for Intelligence

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PRODUCTION OF INTELLIGENCE ON CHINA

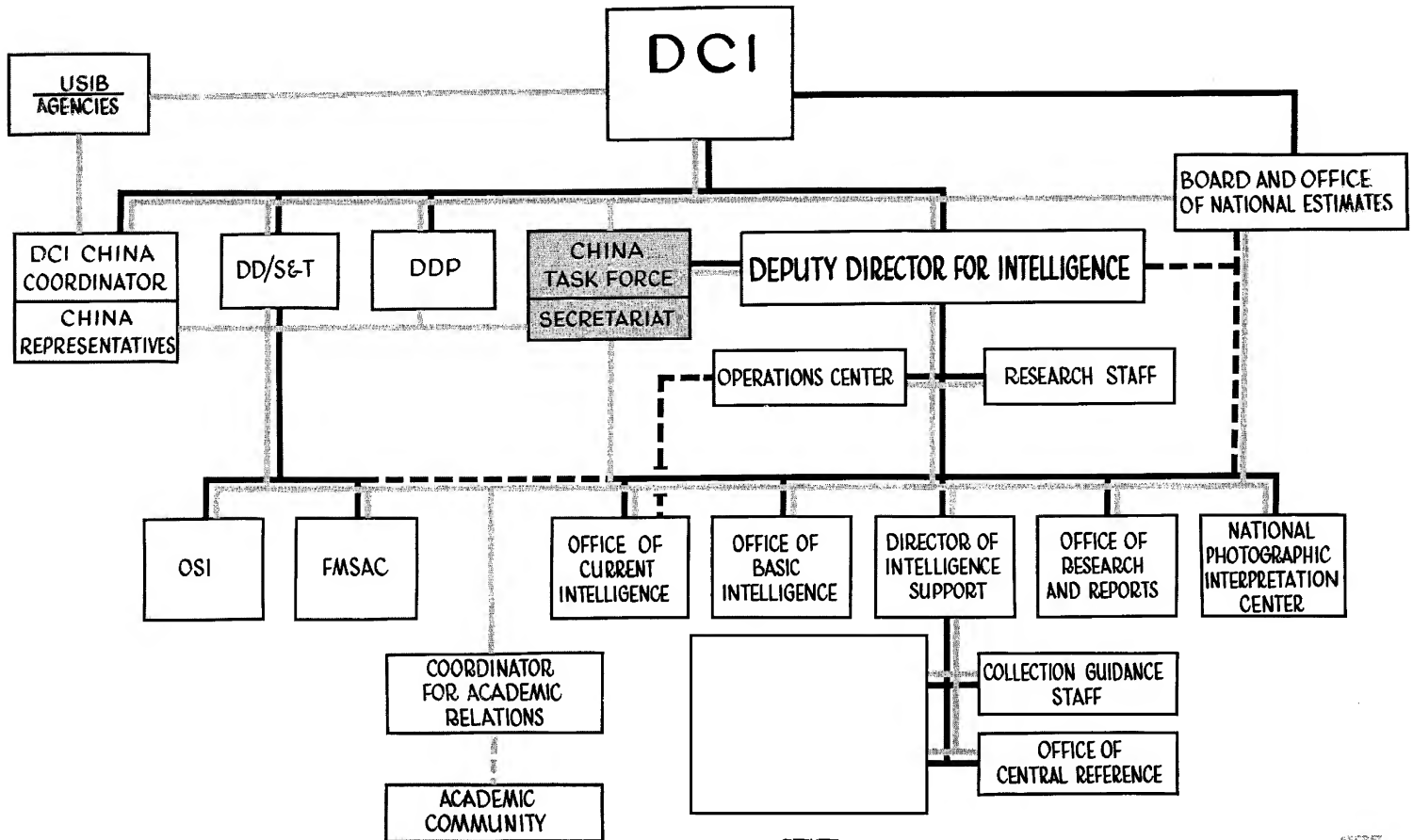


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PRODUCTION OF INTELLIGENCE ON CHINA

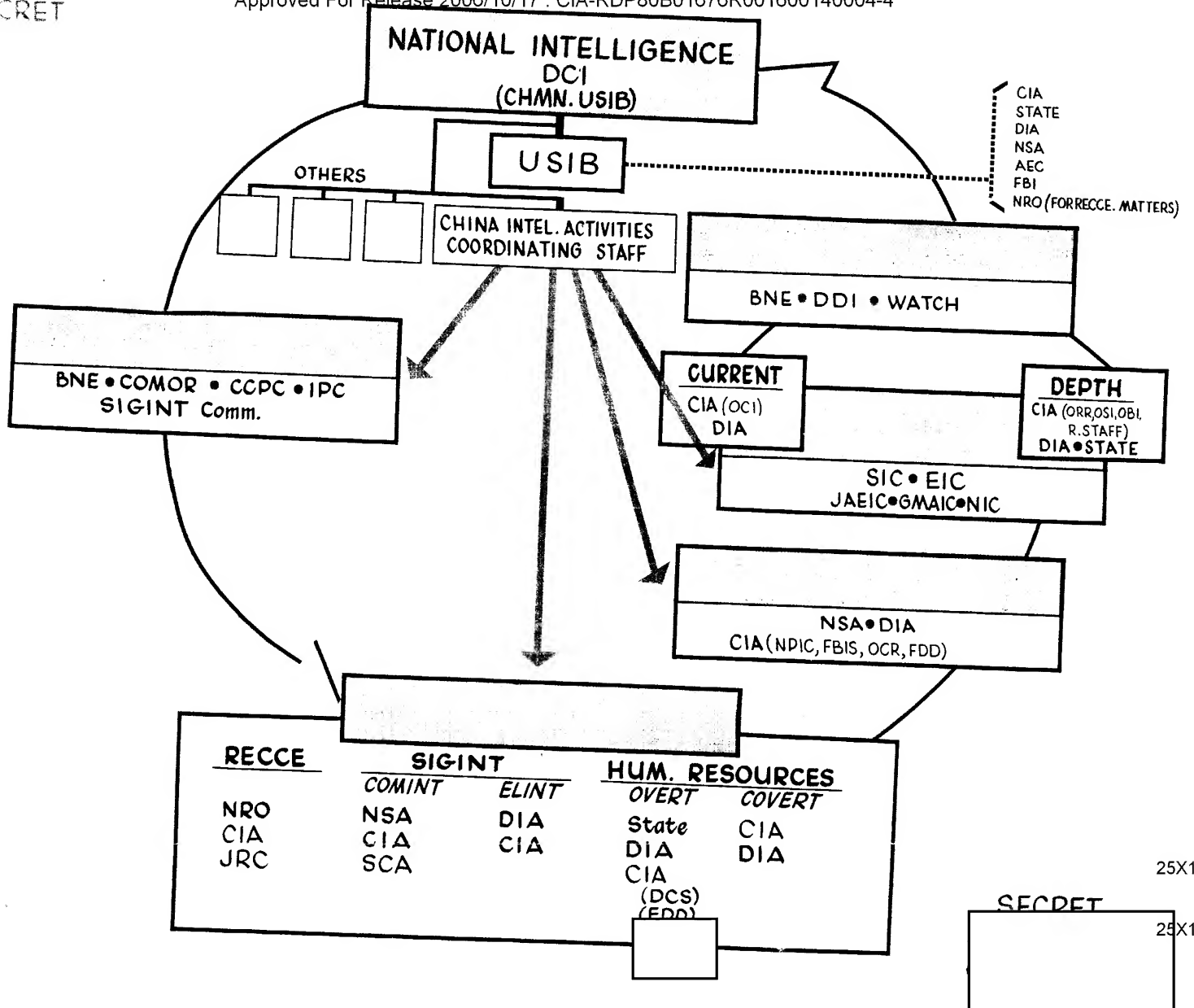


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